

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JUDGE HELEN SHORES LEE

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 6, 2018

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of Judge Helen Shores Lee, who passed away on July 2, 2018, at the age of 77. Judge Lee was the first black woman to serve as a judge on the Jefferson County Circuit Court, and was a daughter of the prominent civil rights attorney Authur Shores. Throughout her life, Judge Lee put her family and her community first. Her contributions as a public servant and advocate for equal justice will not be forgotten.

On May 3, 1941, Judge Lee was born in Birmingham, Alabama, a city which would become the beating heart of the civil rights movement. Born to parents Arthur Shores and Theodora Warren Shores, Judge Lee grew up with her younger sister Barbara in Birmingham's historic Smithfield neighborhood, an area that was at the forefront of Birmingham's struggle for equal rights. Home to black leaders including A.G. Gaston and Peter Hall, Smithfield became known as "dynamite hill" because houses in the neighborhood were bombed so frequently by the Klu Klux Klan.

Judge Lee's home was no exception. Because of her father's role as a prominent attorney in the civil rights movement, Judge Lee's family was regularly targeted. During one two-week period during the summer of 1963, her home was bombed twice, injuring Judge Lee's mother and killing their pet.

But Judge Lee's father refused to give up on his fight for equality. As an attorney, he worked for Autherine Lucy in her effort to desegregate the University of Alabama. Later he helped secure admission for Vivian Malone and James Hood, who successfully desegregated the school.

Despite violent threats against her home, her family, and her neighborhood, Judge Lee pursued her education. Judge Lee graduated from A.H. Parker High School and then attended Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, to earn her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. Judge Lee then went on to earn her Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology from Pepperdine University in Los Angeles, California.

After graduating from Fisk University, Judge Lee married the love of her life, Robert Lee, Sr., and started a family with her new husband in California. For 55 years, until Judge Lee's passing, the couple remained happily married.

Judge Lee practiced as a clinical psychologist for several years before following in her father's footsteps and becoming an attorney. With a law degree from Cumberland School of Law in Birmingham, Judge Lee joined her father's firm in 1988.

From 1996 to 2000, Judge Lee served as a member of the Alabama State Ethics Commission. During her last two years on the Commission she served as the Commission's chairwoman.

After 16 years of working with her father's firm, Judge Lee was appointed Circuit Judge of the Tenth Judicial Court of Alabama by Governor Don Siegelman. Assuming the bench in 2003, Judge Lee became the first black woman to serve in the Civil Division of the Circuit Court of Jefferson County.

As a Circuit Judge, Judge Lee continued her commitment to community service, pushing herself and those around her to give their time to promote the welfare of the Birmingham community. For her tireless work, Judge Lee was recognized by the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) of Central Alabama with the Jeana P. Hosch Woman of Valor award in 2013.

Judge Lee is preceded in death by her father Arthur Shores and mother Theodora Warren Shores. She leaves to cherish her memories her devoted husband of 55 years Robert Lee, Sr., her loving children, Robert Lee, Jr., Arthur Shores Lee (Vera), and Keisha Lee, her five beautiful grandchildren, Vincent, Ashely, Trenton, Trevon, and Leigh, her sister Barbara Shores, niece Danielle, nephew Damien, and a host of many cousins and special friends.

On a personal note, Judge Lee was a true inspiration to me. Her keen intellect, calming influence, and fierce determination made her a role model and mentor to many. I am so grateful for her friendship and counsel over the years. I know that I serve in Congress today as Alabama's first black Congresswoman because of amazing black women like Judge Lee who paved the way. Her extraordinary legacy will continue to live on in the many people she impacted.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 7th Congressional District and the State of Alabama, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life and contributions of Judge Helen Shores Lee. She was a community leader and a Birmingham treasure whose community service and whose fight for justice touched countless lives.

WISHING MICHAEL MCHUGH A SPEEDY AND COMPLETE VICTORY IN HIS BATTLE AGAINST CANCER

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 6, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my best wishes, prayers, and hopes for a speedy and complete victory to Michael McHugh in his battle against cancer.

Michael McHugh previously worked in my Houston Office as an intern where he made significant contributions to our efforts to serve

the residents of the 18th Congressional District of Texas.

Raised in Friendswood, Texas and educated at the University of Houston, Michael McHugh earned the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America and played an active role in several civic organizations and volunteer groups in the Houston area.

Those of us who know Michael well know his dedication to democratic ideals and his commitment to fighting injustice.

That dedication and commitment will serve Michael well during this most challenging and difficult chapter in his life.

Michael McHugh lives the quote of Margaret Mead: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

As a breast cancer survivor, I know how shocking, overwhelming, and unexpected a cancer diagnosis can be.

I know how easy it is for anxiety, anger, and depression to creep in as you adjust to life after the diagnosis.

However, as Lance Armstrong said "we have two options, medically and emotionally: give up or fight like hell."

Michael is a fighter.

As a Congresswoman who is also a survivor, I have and will continue to support funding medical research designed to cure cancer.

It is my hope that Michael McHugh will win his fight against cancer and will enjoy many more years with his loving family and friends and continue his history of service to our community and nation.

It is my prayer that Michael's battle against cancer will one day be a footnote in the book of his life, just another battle that he fought and won.

As the later ESPN broadcaster, Stuart Scott, stated, "you beat cancer by how you live, why you live, and in the manner in which you live."

HONORING IVAN DRACH

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 6, 2018

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleague and fellow co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional Ukraine Caucus, Rep. BRIAN FITZPATRICK, to honor the dignified and illustrious life of Ukrainian democratic leader, Ivan Drach. A poet, author, politician, and lover of liberty for Ukraine, Ivan was a true leader who brought forward the edge of freedom for his nation. On June 19, Ivan passed away in Kyiv at the age of 81.

He first gained prominence with his poem, "Knife in the Sun," and then later in 1988 helped found and led the "Popular Movement for Ukraine," popularly known as Rukh. After his election to the Ukrainian Parliament, the Verkhovna Rada in 1990, he worked tirelessly to shine a light on wicked crimes of Russian-

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